

NO. 24

JOURNAL
OF THE
SENATE
OF THE
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA



REGULAR SESSION BEGINNING TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2025

Thursday, February 20, 2025
(Statewide Session)

~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

The Senate assembled at 11:00 A.M., the hour to which it stood adjourned, and was called to order by the PRESIDENT.

A quorum being present, the proceedings were opened with a devotion by the Chaplain as follows:

Proverbs 11:2

In Proverbs we are reminded that: "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom."

Please join me as we pray: O wondrous God, I believe all of us are aware how difficult it is for any man or woman to avoid the pitfalls of pride. And You certainly make it clear, Lord, that embracing pridefulness is not at all Your desire for us, that it is a devastating trap. That is why we turn to You today, O God, calling on You to bestow on us Your guidance and strength so that we can turn from being proud and instead focus upon humility and its partner, wisdom. And especially may those who serve You here in this Senate ever be known as leaders who are indeed humble and wise, and may their pattern of leadership inspire other office holders to conduct themselves in a similar fashion -- to the benefit of all South Carolinians. Hear this humble prayer, dear Lord. Amen.

The PRESIDENT called for Petitions, Memorials, Presentments of Grand Juries and such like papers.

Call of the Senate

Senator RANKIN moved that a Call of the Senate be made. The following Senators answered the Call:

Adams	Alexander	Allen
Blackmon	Campsen	Cash
Chaplin	Climer	Corbin
Cromer	Davis	Devine
Elliott	Fernandez	Gambrell
Garrett	Goldfinch	Grooms
Hembree	Jackson	Johnson
Kimbrell	Leber	Massey

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Matthews	Nutt	Ott
Rankin	Rice	Sabb
Stubbs	Sutton	Tedder
Turner	Verdin	Walker
Williams	Young	Zell

A quorum being present, the Senate resumed.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

The following appointments were transmitted by the Honorable Henry Dargan McMaster:

Statewide Appointments

Reappointment, Department of Natural Resources Board, with the term to commence July 1, 2022, and to expire July 1, 2026

2nd Congressional District:

Michael E. Hutchins, 1 Panorama Drive, Lexington, SC 29072

Referred to the Committee on Fish, Game and Forestry.

Initial Appointment, South Carolina Board of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services, with the term to commence March 15, 2019, and to expire March 15, 2025

1st Congressional District:

Terry Seckinger, 566 Needlerush Parkway, Mount Pleasant, SC 29464
VICE Christopher F. Gibbs

Referred to the Committee on Corrections and Penology.

Initial Appointment, South Carolina State Commission on Higher Education, with the term to commence July 1, 2024, and to expire July 1, 2026

Public Research Institutions:

Charles Schulze, 720 Montague Ave., Greenwood, SC 29649 *VICE*
Hubert F. Mobley

Referred to the Committee on Education.

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Reappointment, State Inspector General, with the term to commence May 10, 2025, and to expire May 10, 2029

Brian D. Lamkin, Office of the Inspector General, 111 Executive Center Drive, Suite 204, Columbia, SC 29210

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Local Appointment

Initial Appointment, Beaufort County Master-in-Equity, with the term to commence June 6, 2021, and to expire June 30, 2027

James J. Wegmann, Esquire, 21 Egret Drive, Beaufort, SC 29907
VICE The Honorable Marvin Henry Dukes III

COMMUNICATIONS

7th Congressional District Legislative Delegation

The Honorable Henry D. McMaster	The Honorable Jeffrey S. Gossett
State House, First Floor	401 Gressette Building
Columbia, SC 29201	Columbia, SC 29201

The Honorable Mark Hammond	The Honorable Charles F. Reid
1205 Pendleton Street	213 Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201	Columbia, SC 29201

February 19, 2025

RE: Approval of Mr. Henry Edsel Hemingway, Jr., 7th District DOT Commission

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to Section 57-1-325 et seq., members of the General Assembly representing the 7th Congressional District met to consider the above referenced appointment on Wednesday, February 19, 2025. The meeting was publicly posted and members of the Senate and House of Representatives met jointly.

As Senior Member of the 7th District Delegation, I certify that Mr. Henry Edsel Hemingway, Jr. received a majority of the weighted vote of only the Senators in the delegation and a majority of the weighted vote of only the members of the House of Representatives in the delegation. Details of the appointment are below.

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Initial Appointment, Department of Transportation Commission, with the term to commence February 15, 2025, and to expire February 15, 2029

7th Congressional District:

Henry Edsel Hemingway, Jr., 485 Hemingway Lane, Georgetown, SC 29440-4150 *VICE* Tony Cox

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions.
Sincerely,

Luke Rankin

Doctor of the Day

Senator DEVINE introduced Dr. Ada Stewart of Columbia, S.C., Doctor of the Day.

Leave of Absence

On motion of Senator RICE, at 11:10 A.M., Senator REICHENBACH was granted a leave of absence for today.

Leave of Absence

On motion of Senator MASSEY, at 11:10 A.M., Senator KENNEDY was granted a leave of absence for today.

Leave of Absence

On motion of Senator CASH, at 11:10 A.M., Senator MARTIN was granted a leave of absence for today.

Leave of Absence

On motion of Senator HEMBREE, at 11:15 A.M., Senator BENNETT was granted a leave of absence for today.

Leave of Absence

On motion of Senator GAMBRELL, at 11:51 A.M., Senator GOLDFINCH was granted a leave of absence for the balance of the day.

Expression of Personal Interest

Senator MASSEY rose for an Expression of Personal Interest.

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CO-SPONSORS ADDED

The following co-sponsors were added to the respective Bills:

S. 156 Sens. Kimbrell and Young
S. 159 Sen. Young
S. 310 Sen. Zell
S. 357 Sen. Young

RECALLED AND COMMITTED

S. 67 -- Senators Hembree, Leber, Johnson, Zell, Turner, Cromer and Williams: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 9-8-10(17), RELATING TO DEFINITIONS, SO AS TO INCLUDE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THIS STATE IN THE DEFINITION OF "SOLICITOR" AND TO MAKE THE NECESSARY PROVISIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SYSTEM; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 9-8-40(1), RELATING TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE SYSTEM AND CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP, SO AS TO ALLOW THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SERVING ON JULY 1, 2024, TO ELECT TO BECOME A MEMBER.

On motion of Senator RANKIN, with unanimous consent, the Bill was recalled from the Committee on Judiciary and committed to the Committee on Finance.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

The following were introduced:

S. 365 -- Senator Jackson: A SENATE RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR DR. CHERYL WASHINGTON, A SENIOR ASSOCIATE MINISTER AT BIBLE WAY CHURCH OF ATLAS ROAD, AND TO CONGRATULATE HER FOR BEING THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN FEMALE EVER TO EARN A DOCTOR OF MINISTRY FROM COLUMBIA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY.

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The Senate Resolution was adopted.

S. 366 -- Senators Kimbrell, Garrett, Fernandez, Leber, Stubbs, Gambrell, Corbin and Nutt: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 27-1-60, RELATING TO THE RIGHT OF A HOMEOWNER TO DISPLAY CERTAIN FLAGS, SO AS TO ALLOW FOR ADDITIONAL FLAGS

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TO BE DISPLAYED; BY AMENDING SECTION 27-30-150, RELATING TO AN APPLICATION OF ACCESS TO DOCUMENT PROVISIONS, SO AS TO REQUIRE THE DISCLOSURE OF ANY MONIES PAID TO AN OFFICER OF OR CONTRACT ENTERED INTO BY A HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION; BY ADDING SECTION 27-30-180 SO AS TO LIMIT A HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION'S ABILITY TO RESTRICT SPEECH; BY AMENDING SECTION 15-41-30, RELATING TO PROPERTY EXEMPT FROM ATTACHMENT, LEVY, AND SALE, SO AS TO PROHIBIT A HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION FROM FORECLOSING ON A DEBTOR'S PRIMARY RESIDENCE; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 27-30-130, RELATING TO THE ENFORCEABILITY OF GOVERNING DOCUMENTS, SO AS TO NULLIFY ANY PROVISION IN A HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION GOVERNING DOCUMENTS GRANTING THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION THE AUTHORITY TO FORECLOSE ON THE PROPERTY OF A HOMEOWNER.

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Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

S. 367 -- Senator Campsen: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION 50-21-200 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT ABANDONED VESSELS, DERELICT VESSELS, AND SUNKEN VESSELS ARE DECLARED TO BE PUBLIC NUISANCES; BY ADDING SECTION 50-21-210 SO AS TO DEFINE TERMS RELATED TO ABANDONED AND DERELICT VESSELS; BY ADDING SECTION 50-21-220 SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE PENALTIES FOR A PERSON THAT CAUSES OR ALLOWS A VESSEL TO BECOME AN ABANDONED VESSEL OR A DERELICT VESSEL AND THE PENALTIES FOR INTENTIONALLY OR RECKLESSLY CAUSING A VESSEL TO SINK; BY ADDING SECTION 50-21-230 SO AS TO EXTEND THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENFORCING THE ARTICLE; BY ADDING SECTION 50-21-240 SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE PROCEDURE FOR DECLARING CERTAIN VESSELS ABANDONED OR DERELICT; BY ADDING SECTION 50-21-250 SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE RECEIPT OF BONA FIDE PLANS OF REMOVAL FOR CERTAIN VESSELS; BY ADDING SECTION 50-21-260 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON WHO REMOVES AND DISPOSES OF AN ABANDONED VESSEL OR A DERELICT VESSEL MAY

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COMMENCE A CIVIL ACTION AGAINST A RESPONSIBLE PARTY; BY ADDING SECTION 50-21-270 SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE PROCEDURE FOR THE REMOVAL OF VESSELS THAT HAVE SUNK; BY ADDING SECTION 50-21-280 SO AS TO ALLOW FOR THE IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OF CERTAIN VESSELS DETERMINED TO BE A SIGNIFICANT NAVIGATIONAL HAZARD OR A SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD; BY ADDING SECTION 50-21-290 SO AS TO REQUIRE THE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF A WEBSITE AND APPLICATION FOR THE REPORTING OF CERTAIN VESSELS; BY REPEALING SECTION 50-21-190 RELATING TO ABANDONED WATERCRAFT; BY REPEALING SECTION 50-23-205 RELATING TO THE SEIZURE OF CERTAIN WATERCRAFT; AND BY REPEALING SECTION 50-21-10(1) RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF ABANDON.

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Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Fish, Game and Forestry.

S. 368 -- Senators Garrett, Kimbrell, Cash, Fernandez, Johnson, Adams, Corbin, Rice, Zell, Leber and Elliott: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ENACTING THE "ENDING ILLEGAL DISCRIMINATION AND RESTORING MERIT-BASED OPPORTUNITY ACT" BY ADDING ARTICLE 29 TO CHAPTER 1, TITLE 1 SO AS TO PROHIBIT EVERY OFFICE, DIVISION, OR OTHER UNIT BY ANY NAME OF EVERY OFFICE OR DEPARTMENT OF THIS STATE, AND ALL OF ITS POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS, INCLUDING ALL INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS, FROM PROMOTING DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION, AND TO PROVIDE EXCEPTIONS; TO PROMOTE INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVE, EXCELLENCE, AND HARD WORK; AND TO SPECIFY APPLICABILITY.

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Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

S. 369 -- Senator Young: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 39-73-10, RELATING TO STATE COMMODITY CODE DEFINITIONS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE STATE COMMODITY CODE BE THE SOUTH CAROLINA ATTORNEY

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GENERAL; BY AMENDING SECTION 39-73-40, RELATING TO TRANSACTIONS WHERE PROHIBITION IS NOT APPLICABLE, SO AS TO ADD AN AGENT OR INVESTMENT ADVISOR REPRESENTATIVE AS INDIVIDUALS SUBJECT TO AN ORDER TO DENY, SUSPEND, OR REVOKE A PERSON'S LICENSE; BY AMENDING SECTION 39-73-60, RELATING TO PROHIBITED ACTS, SO AS TO REPLACE SECTION 39-73-310 WITH SECTION 39-73-30; BY AMENDING SECTION 39-73-80, RELATING TO STATE SECURITIES LAWS, SO AS TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES; BY AMENDING SECTION 39-73-315, RELATING TO ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS TO PREVENT VIOLATIONS OR IMMINENT VIOLATIONS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE ADMINISTRATOR CAN ISSUE AN ORDER RELATED TO ANY ACTION THAT MAY VIOLATE THIS CHAPTER; BY AMENDING SECTION 39-73-320, RELATING TO LEGAL, EQUITABLE, AND SPECIAL REMEDIES AVAILABLE TO A COURT FOR ENFORCEMENT, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE ADMINISTRATOR MAY MAINTAIN AN ACTION IN THE RICHLAND COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS; BY AMENDING SECTION 39-73-325, RELATING TO PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE ADMINISTRATOR MAY REFER VIOLATIONS TO THE APPROPRIATE DIVISION OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE OR OTHER AUTHORITY; BY AMENDING SECTION 39-73-330, RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THIS CHAPTER, SO AS TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES; BY AMENDING SECTION 39-73-340, RELATING TO THE AUTHORITY TO PROMULGATE REGULATIONS, FORMS, AND ORDERS, SO AS TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES; BY AMENDING SECTION 39-73-350, RELATING TO THE APPLICABILITY OF SECTIONS 39-73-20, 39-73-50, AND 39-73-60 TO PERSONS WHO SELL, BUY, OR OFFER TO SELL OR BUY COMMODITIES IN THIS STATE, SO AS TO PROVIDE GUIDELINES FOR APPLICABLE RADIO AND TELEVISION COMMUNICATIONS; BY AMENDING SECTION 39-73-360, RELATING TO JUDICIAL REVIEW, SO AS TO PROVIDE GUIDELINES; BY AMENDING SECTION 39-73-370, RELATING TO DEFENSE IN A CASE BASED ON FAILURE TO MAKE PHYSICAL DELIVERY, SO AS TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES; BY ADDING SECTION 39-73-375 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL MAY RETAIN FUNDS FROM

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FINES AND PENALTIES TO OFFSET RELEVANT EXPENSES; BY ADDING SECTION 39-73-400 SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY OF THIS CHAPTER; AND BY REPEALING SECTION 39-73-355 RELATING TO ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

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Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

S. 370 -- Senators Gambrell, Adams, Alexander, Allen, Bennett, Blackmon, Campsen, Cash, Chaplin, Climer, Corbin, Cromer, Davis, Devine, Elliott, Fernandez, Garrett, Goldfinch, Graham, Grooms, Hembree, Hutto, Jackson, Johnson, Kennedy, Kimbrell, Leber, Martin, Massey, Matthews, Nutt, Ott, Peeler, Rankin, Reichenbach, Rice, Sabb, Stubbs, Sutton, Tedder, Turner, Verdin, Walker, Williams, Young and Zell: A SENATE RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR THE WILLIAMS TRANSCO SOUTHEAST SUPPLY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT.

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The Senate Resolution was adopted.

S. 371 -- Senators Jackson and Davis: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION 56-1-560 SO AS TO PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES MAY ISSUE MOBILE DRIVERS' LICENSES AND MOBILE SPECIAL IDENTIFICATION CARDS; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 56-1-190, RELATING TO REQUIRING DRIVERS' LICENSES TO BE CARRIED AND EXHIBITED ON DEMAND, SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE CARRYING AND EXHIBITING OF MOBILE DRIVERS' LICENSES.

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Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation.

H. 3438 -- Reps. Pope, B. Newton and Ligon: A JOINT RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROVES ORDINANCE NUMBER 3421 ADOPTED ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2021, BY THE YORK COUNTY COUNCIL TO EXPAND THE CATAWBA INDIAN RESERVATION, AS REQUESTED BY THE CATAWBA INDIAN NATION.

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Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

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REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Senator VERDIN from the Committee on Medical Affairs submitted a favorable with amendment report on:

S. 2 -- Senators Peeler, Alexander and Davis: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING CHAPTER 12 TO TITLE 44 SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, TO PROVIDE FOR ITS POWERS, DUTIES, AND AUTHORITY, TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT IS COMPRISED OF THE OFFICE OF INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES, THE OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH, AND THE OFFICE OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES; BY AMENDING SECTION 1-30-10, RELATING TO DEPARTMENTS OF STATE GOVERNMENT, SO AS TO ADD THE DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND TO REMOVE THE DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG ABUSE SERVICES, THE DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH; BY AMENDING SECTION 8-17-370, RELATING TO EXEMPTIONS FROM THE STATE EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, ALL EMPLOYEES WHO REPORT DIRECTLY TO THE DIRECTOR, AND THE DIRECTOR FOR EACH OF THE COMPONENT OFFICES ARE NOT SUBJECT TO THE STATE EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-20-30, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS FOR THE INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY, RELATED DISABILITIES, HEAD INJURIES, AND SPINAL CORD INJURIES ACT, SO AS TO CONFORM THE DEFINITIONS TO THE CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND TO REDESIGNATE THE DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS AS THE OFFICE OF INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AS A COMPONENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-20-210, RELATING TO CREATION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS, MEMBERSHIP, TERMS OF OFFICE, REMOVAL, AND VACANCIES, SO AS TO ELIMINATE THE COMMISSION AND CONFORM TO THE CREATION OF THE

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DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-20-220, RELATING TO DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION, SO AS TO TRANSFER THE DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION TO THE HEAD OF THE OFFICE OF INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-20-230, RELATING TO POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR, SO AS TO CONFORM TO THE CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-20-240, RELATING TO THE CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS, SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE SCOPE OF AUTHORITY FOR THE OFFICE OF INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-20-255, RELATING TO OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY CONFIRMED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS, SO AS TO TRANSFER OWNERSHIP TO THE DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-49-10, RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG ABUSE SERVICES, SO AS TO ELIMINATE THE DEPARTMENT AND CONFORM TO THE CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND THE OFFICE OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-49-20, RELATING TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT, SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE OFFICE OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-9-10, RELATING TO THE CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH, SO AS TO CONFORM TO THE CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND CREATE THE OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH, PROVIDE FOR THE HEAD OF THE OFFICE, AND PROVIDE QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE HEAD OF THE OFFICE; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-9-20, RELATING TO TRANSFER OF POWERS, DUTIES, RECORDS, AND FILES FROM THE FORMER MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION, SO AS TO FURTHER TRANSFER THOSE POWERS, DUTIES, RECORDS, AND FILES TO THE OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH; BY

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AMENDING SECTION 44-9-30, RELATING TO THE CREATION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION, SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE POWERS OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE; BY AMENDING SECTION 1-3-420, RELATING TO PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY BY THE GOVERNOR, SO AS TO ESTABLISH A PROCESS THROUGH WHICH EMERGENCY PROCLAMATIONS MAY BE LIFTED; BY AMENDING SECTION 25-1-440, RELATING TO ADDITIONAL POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE GOVERNOR DURING A DECLARED EMERGENCY, SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR A PROCESS THROUGH WHICH DECLARATIONS OF EMERGENCY MAY BE LIFTED; BY AMENDING SECTION 40-43-86, RELATING TO FACILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR PHARMACIES, SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH A PHARMACIST MAY REFUSE TO FILL OR REFILL A PRESCRIPTION; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-1-100, RELATING TO ASSISTANCE FROM PEACE AND HEALTH OFFICERS IN A STATE OF EMERGENCY, SO AS TO GIVE SHERIFFS AND POLICE OFFICERS THE DISCRETION AS TO WHETHER TO AID AND ASSIST THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN CARRYING OUT HIS ORDERS DURING A STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-4-130, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS CONCERNING EMERGENCY HEALTH POWERS, SO AS TO ADD NECESSARY DEFINITIONS AND AMEND CERTAIN DEFINITIONS TO REFLECT CHANGES IN AGENCY NAMES; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-4-510, RELATING TO PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OR TESTS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT MAY ISOLATE OR QUARANTINE, PURSUANT TO THE SECTIONS OF THIS ACT AND ITS EXISTING POWERS UNDER SECTION 44-1-140, ANY SYMPTOMATIC PERSON OR PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THE CONTAGIOUS DISEASE FOR WHICH THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY HAS BEEN DECLARED WHOSE REFUSAL OF PHYSICAL EXAMINATION OR TESTING RESULTS IN UNCERTAINTY REGARDING WHETHER HE IS INFECTED WITH THE CONTAGIOUS DISEASE; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-4-520, RELATING TO VACCINATIONS AND TREATMENT, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH MAY VACCINATE OR TREAT PEOPLE TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASES, TO REQUIRE INFORMED CONSENT UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, AND TO DEFINE

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INFORMED CONSENT; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-4-530, RELATING TO ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE OF INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT, DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY, THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH MAY ISOLATE OR QUARANTINE AN INDIVIDUAL OR GROUPS OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH OR EXPOSED TO THE CONTAGIOUS DISEASE FOR WHICH THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY WAS DECLARED; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-4-540, RELATING TO ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE PROCEDURES, SO AS TO REQUIRE A HARD DEADLINE FOR A PETITION FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISOLATION OR QUARANTINE OF AN INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-4-570, RELATING TO EMERGENCY POWERS REGARDING LICENSING OF HEALTH PERSONNEL, SO AS TO REMOVE THE REQUIREMENT THAT STATE HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS MAY BE COMPELLED TO ASSIST IN THE PERFORMANCE OF VACCINATION, TREATMENT, EXAMINATION, OR TESTING AS A CONDITION OF LICENSURE; AND BY REPEALING SECTION 44-9-40 RELATING TO THE STATE DIRECTOR OF MENTAL HEALTH, APPOINTMENT AND REMOVAL, POWERS AND DUTIES, AND QUALIFICATIONS.

Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

Senator GROOMS from the Committee on Transportation submitted a favorable with amendment report on:

S. 275 -- Senator Grooms: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 58-27-10, RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLE DEFINITIONS SO AS TO ADD DEFINITIONS FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES AND CHARGING STATIONS; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 58-27-1060, RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT AN ELECTRIC UTILITY OR OTHER PROVIDER THAT OFFERS AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION DIRECTLY TO THE PUBLIC SHALL DO SO ON A NON-DISCRIMINATORY BASIS UNDER THE SAME FEES AND CONDITIONS OFFERED TO PRIVATE PROVIDERS OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS; AND TO REGULATE REVENUE.

Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

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Senator GROOMS from the Committee on Transportation submitted a favorable with amendment report on:

S. 307 -- Senator Climer: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING CHAPTER 36 TO TITLE 56 SO AS TO PROVIDE GUIDELINES FOR A PEER-TO-PEER CAR SHARING PROGRAM, TO OUTLINE INSURANCE AND LIABILITY PROCEDURES, AND TO PROVIDE DEFINITIONS.

Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

Senator VERDIN from the Committee on Medical Affairs submitted a favorable report on:

S. 310 -- Senators Leber and Zell: A SENATE RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL, THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CHILDHOOD CANCER TASK FORCE, THE MEDICAL SCHOOLS OF THE STATE, AND OTHER APPROPRIATE STAKEHOLDERS TO UNDERTAKE EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH AND OPERATE A ST. JUDE AFFILIATE PROGRAM IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Ordered for consideration tomorrow.

Appointment Reported

Senator VERDIN from the Committee on Medical Affairs submitted a favorable report on:

Statewide Appointment

Initial Appointment, Director of Department of Health & Human Services, with term coterminous with Governor

Director:

Eunice Medina, 5000 Forest Drive, Apt. 1212, Columbia, SC 29206
VICE Robert Kerr

Received as information.

Message from the House

Columbia, S.C., February 18, 2025

Mr. President and Senators:

The House respectfully informs your Honorable Body that it has confirmed the appointment:

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LOCAL APPOINTMENT

Initial Appointment, Beaufort County Master-in-Equity, with term to commence June 6, 2021, and to expire June 30, 2027:

James J. Wegmann, Esquire, 21 Egret Drive, Beaufort, South Carolina 29907 *VICE* The Honorable Marvin Henry Dukes III

Very respectfully,

Speaker of the House

Received as information.

THE SENATE PROCEEDED TO A CALL OF THE UNCONTESTED LOCAL AND STATEWIDE CALENDAR.

**READ THE THIRD TIME
SENT TO THE HOUSE**

The following Bills were read the third time and ordered sent to the House:

S. 77 -- Senators Hembree, Grooms and Zell: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION 59-19-85 SO AS TO PROMOTE PUBLIC ACCESS TO SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS BY REQUIRING SCHOOL BOARDS TO ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT POLICIES THAT PROVIDE ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION OF SUCH MEETINGS AND TO PROVIDE RELATED REQUIREMENTS OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION; AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT MUST BE IMPLEMENTED BY JULY 1, 2025.

S. 78 -- Senators Hembree, Young, Zell and Devine: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION 59-25-60 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT AN INDIVIDUAL'S PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE MAY BE AWARDED ON AN INITIAL TEACHING CERTIFICATE IF THE PRIOR EXPERIENCE IS IN OR RELATED TO THE CONTENT FIELD OF THE CERTIFICATE, AND TO PROVIDE THAT EXISTING CERTIFICATE HOLDERS MAY RECEIVE CREDIT FOR PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE.

OBJECTION

S. 143 -- Senators Devine and Zell: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 20-4-20, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS PERTAINING TO DOMESTIC ABUSE, SO AS TO INCLUDE PERSONS WHO ARE OR

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WERE DATING TO THE LIST OF PERSONS DEFINED AS “HOUSEHOLD MEMBER”; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 20-4-40, RELATING TO PETITIONS FOR AN ORDER OF PROTECTION, SO AS TO INCLUDE A PARENT, GUARDIAN, LEGAL COUNSEL, OR OTHER APPROPRIATE ADULT AS A PERSON WHO CAN PETITION ON BEHALF OF MINORS IN THE PERSON’S HOUSEHOLD.

Senator DEVINE objected to consideration of the Bill.

OBJECTION

S. 180 -- Senator Hutto: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 20-4-20, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS PERTAINING TO DOMESTIC ABUSE, SO AS TO INCLUDE PERSONS WHO ARE OR WERE DATING TO THE LIST OF PERSONS DEFINED AS “HOUSEHOLD MEMBER”; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 20-4-40, RELATING TO PETITIONS FOR AN ORDER OF PROTECTION, SO AS TO INCLUDE A PARENT, GUARDIAN, LEGAL COUNSEL, OR OTHER APPROPRIATE ADULT AS A PERSON WHO CAN PETITION ON BEHALF MINORS IN THE PERSON’S HOUSEHOLD.

Senator DEVINE objected to consideration of the Bill.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT ADOPTED
READ THE SECOND TIME**

S. 101 -- Senator Gambrell: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 40-80-50, RELATING TO INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING THE REGISTRATION OF FIREFIGHTERS BY THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL, SO AS TO REVISE AND CLARIFY THE REQUIREMENTS.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the Bill.

The Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry proposed the following amendment (LC-101.WAB0002S), which was adopted:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, SECTION 1, by striking Section 40-80-50 and inserting:

Section 40-80-50. Upon recommendation of a fire chief or other employer, the Office of the State Fire Marshal must register each firefighter subject to the provisions of Sections 40-80-30 and 40-80-40. The Office of the State Fire Marshal must maintain as minimum

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information on each firefighter the complete name, the date of birth, the social security number, a valid ~~the South Carolina~~ driver's license number, the employer ~~name~~, and the date of employment or membership. The Office of the State Fire Marshal must notify the chief of the employing fire department or other employer of the registration. This notification may be transmitted electronically or in written form. The fire chief must utilize forms as required and provided by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

Senator GAMBRELL explained the amendment.

The amendment was adopted.

The question being the second reading of the Bill.

The “ayes” and “nays” were demanded and taken, resulting as follows:

Ayes 37; Nays 0

AYES

Adams	Alexander	Allen
Blackmon	Campsen	Cash
Chaplin	Climer	Corbin
Cromer	Davis	Devine
Elliott	Fernandez	Gambrell
Garrett	Grooms	Hembree
Jackson	Johnson	Kimbrell
Leber	Massey	Matthews
Nutt	Ott	Rankin
Rice	Sabb	Stubbs
Sutton	Tedder	Turner
Walker	Williams	Young
Zell		

Total--37

NAYS

Total--0

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There being no further amendments, the Bill, as amended, was read the second time, passed and ordered to a third reading.

CARRIED OVER

S. 171 -- Senators Gambrell and Garrett: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING ARTICLE 3 TO CHAPTER 75, TITLE 39 SO AS TO PROVIDE REQUIREMENTS FOR WASTE TIRE MANIFESTS AND RELATED PROVISIONS; BY ADDING ARTICLE 5 TO CHAPTER 75, TITLE 39 SO AS TO PROHIBIT THE INSTALLATION OF UNSAFE USED TIRES, AND RELATED PROVISIONS; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-96-170(E) THROUGH (F), RELATING TO WASTE TIRES, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A COUNTY MAY CHARGE UP TO FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS AS A TIPPING FEE; BY AMENDING SECTION 44-96-170(N) THROUGH (S), RELATING TO WASTE TIRES, SO AS TO AMEND THE COLLECTION OF THE FEE TO INCLUDE USED TIRES, TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE WASTE TIRE FEE AND RELATED WASTE TIRE FUNDS, TO REMOVE THE REBATE PROVISIONS, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STATEWIDE MARKET INFRASTRUCTURE FOR TIRE-DERIVED PRODUCTS; TO DIRECT THE CODE COMMISSIONER TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES; AND TO DEFINE NECESSARY TERMS.

On motion of Senator CORBIN, the Bill was carried over.

POINT OF ORDER

S. 51 -- Senators Davis, Grooms, Stubbs, Massey, Garrett, Sutton, Turner, Graham, Gambrell, Zell, Johnson, Rice, Campsen, Sabb, Tedder, Fernandez, Leber, Devine, Climer, Cromer, Hutto, Young, Kimbrell, Matthews, Jackson, Blackmon, Adams, Hembree, Corbin, Williams, Goldfinch, Bennett, Reichenbach, Elliott, Chaplin, Verdin, Kennedy and Alexander: A JOINT RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE SANTEE COOPER TO ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL TO SOLICIT PROPOSALS ON UTILIZING ASSETS ASSOCIATED WITH V.C. SUMMER UNITS 2 AND 3, AND FOR CONSIDERATIONS RELATED TO A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL.

Point of Order

Senator MATTHEWS raised a Point of Order under Rule 39 that the Resolution had not been on the desks of the members at least one day prior to second reading.

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The PRESIDENT sustained the Point of Order.

POINT OF ORDER

S. 125 -- Senators Johnson and Sutton: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 12-37-220, RELATING TO PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY OF A NONPROFIT HOUSING CORPORATION ONLY APPLIES TO THE PERCENTAGE OF PROPERTY THAT EQUALS THE CORPORATION'S OWNERSHIP INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY, TO PROVIDE AN EXCEPTION, AND TO PROVIDE CERTAIN CERTIFICATION AND NOTICE REQUIREMENTS.

Point of Order

Senator MATTHEWS raised a Point of Order under Rule 39 that the Bill had not been on the desks of the members at least one day prior to second reading.

The PRESIDENT sustained the Point of Order.

POINT OF ORDER

S. 127 -- Senators Johnson and Peeler: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 9-11-10, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS FOR THE SOUTH CAROLINA POLICE OFFICERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM, SO AS TO INCLUDE THE CATAWBA NATION WITHIN THE DEFINITION OF EMPLOYER; AND BY ADDING SECTION 9-11-43 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE CATAWBA NATION IS ELIGIBLE FOR ADMISSION TO THE POLICE OFFICERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE PROCESS FOR ADMISSION.

Point of Order

Senator MATTHEWS raised a Point of Order under Rule 39 that the Bill had not been on the desks of the members at least one day prior to second reading.

The PRESIDENT sustained the Point of Order.

POINT OF ORDER

S. 136 -- Senators Tedder, Leber and Kimbrell: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 17-1-65, RELATING TO THE EXPUNGEMENT OF

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CONVICTIONS FOR THE UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF HANDGUNS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THE STATE MUST DISMISS CERTAIN PENDING UNLAWFUL HANDGUN POSSESSION CHARGES THAT OCCURRED PRIOR TO THE ENACTMENT OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTIONAL CARRY/SECOND AMENDMENT PRESERVATION ACT OF 2024, AND TO PROVIDE THE DISMISSAL OF THESE CHARGES DOES NOT MANDATE THE DISMISSAL OF OTHER RELATED CHARGES OR MAY SERVE AS A BASIS OR SUPPORT FOR CIVIL ACTIONS DUE TO THE ARREST.

Point of Order

Senator MATTHEWS raised a Point of Order under Rule 39 that the Bill had not been on the desks of the members at least one day prior to second reading.

The PRESIDENT sustained the Point of Order.

POINT OF ORDER

S. 156 -- Senators Alexander, Rankin, Garrett, Stubbs, Adams, Bennett, Kimbrell and Young: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION 16-3-80 SO AS TO CREATE THE OFFENSE OF FENTANYL-INDUCED HOMICIDE, TO PROVIDE A PENALTY FOR A VIOLATION, AND TO PROHIBIT AN AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 16-1-10, RELATING TO A LIST OF EXCEPTIONS FOR FELONIES AND MISDEMEANORS, SO AS TO ADD FENTANYL-INDUCED HOMICIDE.

Point of Order

Senator MATTHEWS raised a Point of Order under Rule 39 that the Bill had not been on the desks of the members at least one day prior to second reading.

The PRESIDENT sustained the Point of Order.

POINT OF ORDER

S. 157 -- Senators Alexander, Rankin and Graham: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 58-27-1105, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS, SO AS TO DEFINE QUALIFIED INDEPENDENT THIRD PARTY AND TO ALLOW AN ELECTRIC UTILITY TO INCLUDE STORM RECOVERY COSTS FOR HURRICANE HELENE IN ITS COST OF

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CAPITAL FROM THE DATE OF THE STORM THROUGH THE ISSUANCE OF STORM RECOVERY BONDS; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 58-27-1110, RELATING TO THE PETITION FOR FINANCING ORDER AND REQUIREMENTS, SO AS TO ALLOW AN ELECTRIC UTILITY TO DEFER THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF A FINANCING ORDER.

Point of Order

Senator MATTHEWS raised a Point of Order under Rule 39 that the Bill had not been on the desks of the members at least one day prior to second reading.

The PRESIDENT sustained the Point of Order.

POINT OF ORDER

S. 159 -- Senators Turner, Garrett, Climer, Adams, Graham, Alexander and Young: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 16-13-135, RELATING TO THE OFFENSE OF RETAIL THEFT AND ASSOCIATED PENALTIES, SO AS TO REVISE THE PREVIOUS OFFENSE OF RETAIL THEFT TO CREATE THE OFFENSES OF ORGANIZED RETAIL CRIME AND ORGANIZED RETAIL CRIME OF AN AGGRAVATED NATURE, TO PROVIDE A GRADUATED PENALTY STRUCTURE, AND TO REVISE NECESSARY DEFINITIONS.

Point of Order

Senator MATTHEWS raised a Point of Order under Rule 39 that the Bill had not been on the desks of the members at least one day prior to second reading.

The PRESIDENT sustained the Point of Order.

POINT OF ORDER

S. 165 -- Senators Campsen and Graham: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS SO AS TO ENACT THE "SOUTH CAROLINA CONSERVATION EDUCATION ACT"; AND BY ADDING SECTION 50-9-980 SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONSERVATION EDUCATION FUND AND THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH REVENUES IN THE FUND MAY BE EXPENDED.

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Point of Order

Senator CAMPSSEN raised a Point of Order under Rule 39 that the Bill had not been on the desks of the members at least one day prior to second reading.

The PRESIDENT sustained the Point of Order.

POINT OF ORDER

S. 183 -- Senators Adams, Fernandez, Alexander, Garrett, Leber and Kimbrell: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION 16-3-80 SO AS TO CREATE THE OFFENSE OF DRUG-INDUCED HOMICIDE AND TO PROVIDE A PENALTY; AND TO AMEND SECTION 16-1-10, RELATING TO THE EXEMPTION FROM THE CATEGORIZATION OF FELONIES AND MISDEMEANORS, SO AS TO INCLUDE DRUG-INDUCED HOMICIDE.

Point of Order

Senator MATTHEWS raised a Point of Order under Rule 39 that the Bill had not been on the desks of the members at least one day prior to second reading.

The PRESIDENT sustained the Point of Order.

POINT OF ORDER

S. 219 -- Senator Goldfinch: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 50-5-2730, RELATING TO THE APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL FISHING REGULATIONS IN STATE WATERS, SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE SEASON, CATCH LIMITS, AND MINIMUM SIZES FOR CERTAIN SPECIES UNDER THE SNAPPER-GROUPER FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Point of Order

Senator MATTHEWS raised a Point of Order under Rule 39 that the Bill had not been on the desks of the members at least one day prior to second reading.

The PRESIDENT sustained the Point of Order.

POINT OF ORDER

S. 264 -- Senators Peeler, Climer, Ott, Johnson, Kimbrell, Williams, Turner, Rice, Corbin and Bennett: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION 12-37-160 SO

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AS TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY MAY NOT BE ANNEXED BY A MUNICIPALITY WITHOUT EXPRESS WRITTEN AGREEMENT OF THE OWNER.

Point of Order

Senator MATTHEWS raised a Point of Order under Rule 39 that the Bill had not been on the desks of the members at least one day prior to second reading.

The PRESIDENT sustained the Point of Order.

POINT OF ORDER

S. 291 -- Senators Peeler, Alexander and Bennett: A JOINT RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTINUING AUTHORITY TO PAY THE EXPENSES OF STATE GOVERNMENT IF THE 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR BEGINS WITHOUT A GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 HAVING BEEN ENACTED, AND TO PROVIDE EXCEPTIONS.

Point of Order

Senator MATTHEWS raised a Point of Order under Rule 39 that the Resolution had not been on the desks of the members at least one day prior to second reading.

The PRESIDENT sustained the Point of Order.

POINT OF ORDER

S. 318 -- Senators Goldfinch, Alexander, Johnson, Fernandez, Gambrell, Stubbs, Grooms, Climer, Leber, Cash, Kimbrell, Davis, Young, Peeler, Corbin, Turner, Rice and Verdin: A JOINT RESOLUTION SO AS TO ENACT THE "COMMISSION ON FISCAL RESTRAINT AND GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY"; TO PROVIDE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION; TO PROVIDE FOR THE COMMISSION'S DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS; TO PRIORITIZE SPENDING CUTS AND ESTABLISH A DATE THAT THE SPENDING CUTS MUST BE REPORTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE GOVERNOR; TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPORT ON THE COMMISSION'S OTHER DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS; AND TO SUNSET THE COMMISSION.

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Point of Order

Senator MATTHEWS raised a Point of Order under Rule 39 that the Resolution had not been on the desks of the members at least one day prior to second reading.

The PRESIDENT sustained the Point of Order.

READ THE SECOND TIME

S. 363 -- Fish, Game and Forestry Committee: A JOINT RESOLUTION REGULATION TO APPROVE REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, RELATING TO ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO SPECIFIC PROPERTIES, DESIGNATED AS REGULATION DOCUMENT NUMBER 5329, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 23, TITLE 1 OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the Resolution.

Senator CAMPSSEN explained the Resolution.

The question being the second reading of the Resolution.

The “ayes” and “nays” were demanded and taken, resulting as follows:

Ayes 37; Nays 0

AYES

Adams	Alexander	Allen
Blackmon	Campsen	Cash
Chaplin	Climer	Corbin
Cromer	Davis	Devine
Elliott	Fernandez	Gambrell
Garrett	Grooms	Hembree
Jackson	Johnson	Kimbrell
Leber	Massey	Matthews
Nutt	Ott	Rankin
Rice	Sabb	Stubbs
Sutton	Tedder	Turner
Walker	Williams	Young
Zell		

Total--37

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NAYS

Total--0

The Resolution was read the second time, passed and ordered to a third reading.

S. 363--Ordered to a Third Reading

On motion of Senator CAMPSSEN, S. 363 was ordered to receive a third reading on Friday, February 21, 2025.

POINT OF ORDER

H. 3523 -- Reps. J.E. Johnson, W. Newton, Robbins, Mitchell, Pedalino, Taylor, Long, Bailey, Calhoon, Yow, Weeks, Erickson, Bradley, Hager, Whitmire, Hixon, Cromer, Gilreath, Oremus and Hartz: A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 16-13-135, RELATING TO THE OFFENSE OF RETAIL THEFT AND ASSOCIATED PENALTIES, SO AS TO REVISE NECESSARY DEFINITIONS, TO REVISE THE PREVIOUS OFFENSE OF RETAIL THEFT TO CREATE THE OFFENSES OF ORGANIZED RETAIL CRIME AND ORGANIZED RETAIL CRIME OF AN AGGRAVATED NATURE, AND TO PROVIDE A GRADUATED PENALTY STRUCTURE.

Point of Order

Senator MARTIN raised a Point of Order under Rule 39 that the Bill had not been on the desks of the members at least one day prior to second reading.

The PRESIDENT sustained the Point of Order.

ADOPTED

S. 339 -- Senators Campsen and Sutton: A SENATE RESOLUTION TO DECLARE THE NIGHTS OF MARCH THROUGH MAY AND AUGUST THROUGH OCTOBER AS "LIGHTS OUT NIGHTS IN SOUTH CAROLINA SEASON" AND TO URGE SOUTH CAROLINA RESIDENTS TO TURN OUT NON-ESSENTIAL LIGHTS AT NIGHT DURING THESE CRITICAL PERIODS IN THE SPRING AND FALL FOR THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Resolution was adopted.

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LOCAL APPOINTMENT

Confirmation

Having received a favorable report from the Senate, the following appointment was confirmed in open session:

Initial Appointment, Beaufort County Master-in-Equity, with the term to commence June 6, 2021, and to expire June 30, 2027.

James J. Wegmann, Esquire, 21 Egret Drive, Beaufort, SC 29907
VICE The Honorable Marvin Henry Dukes III

Motion Adopted

On motion of Senator MASSEY, the Senate agreed to stand adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:06 P.M., on motion of Senator MASSEY, the Senate adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11:00 A.M. under the provisions of Rule 1 for the purpose of taking up local matters and uncontested matters which have previously received unanimous consent to be taken up.

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